

THTR 358: Dramatic (& Performance) Theory

Spring 2007-08

Instructor: D. Ohlandt

Office: Buchanan 211

Phone: x6112

email: <ohlandt@lakeforest.edu>

TTh 1pm - 2:20pm

Buchanan 210

office hours: T 2:30-4pm

W 1:30-3pm

Schedule of Readings & Assignments

Why Drama? Why Theory? Why Performance?

– Th 1/17 FIELD TRIP - *Les Ballets Trockadero de Monte Carlo* @ Harris Theater 7:30pm

T 1/22 overview - what is "performance"?
discussion of the Trocks
TTT - Introduction ""The Politics of Theatre Theory"
articles on the Trocks

**option A paper #1 due (on any topic raised in the introduction to
Theatre/Theory/Theatre - "The Politics of Theatre Theory")**

Th 1/24 PSR - introduction by Henry Bial
PSR - VII.28 de Marinis
PSR - VII.29 Barba

The Rise of Modernity

T 1/29 Carlson 1 - Aristotle & the Greeks
TTT - Aristotle
Carlson 6 - the French Renaissance
TTT - Corneille

Th 1/31 Carlson 16 - France in the late 19th century
TTT - Zola

T 2/5 TTT - Maeterlinck
The Intruder by Maeterlinck
TTT - Strindberg
option A paper #2 due (on any topic raised in "The Rise of Modernity")

1900 through the Wars

Th 2/7 NO CLASS - but, prepare yourself for tonight's field trip by doing the readings
before we go

Fragments review from the *Chicago Tribune* (handed out in class)

Fragments review from the Chicago *Sun-Times* (posted on Moodle)

Craig N. Owens "Applause and Hiss: Implicating the Audience in Samuel Beckett's 'Rockaby' and 'Catastrophe'." *The Journal of the Midwest Modern Language Association*, Vol. 36, No. 1, Thinking Post-Identity. (Spring, 2003), pp. 74-81 (posted on Moodle)

Gay McAuley "Samuel Beckett's 'Come & Go'." *Educational Theatre Journal*, Vol. 18, No. 4, Special International Theatre Issue. (Dec., 1966), pp. 439-442 (posted on Moodle)

S.E. Gontarski "Revising Himself: Performance as Text in Samuel Beckett's Theatre." *Journal of Modern Literature*, Vol. 22, No. 1. (Autumn, 1998), pp. 131-145 (posted on Moodle)

"Talking with Peter Brook." *TDR*, Vol. 30, No. 1. (Spring, 1986), pp. 54-71 (posted on Moodle)

– Th 2/7 FIELD TRIP - *Fragments* by Samuel Beckett directed by Peter Brook @ CST 7:30pm

T 2/12 discussion of *Fragments* and revisit readings from last Thursday

Th 2/14 *Ubu Roi* by Alfred Jarry
option B thesis & outline #1 due

– Th 2/14 FIELD TRIP - *Fat Boy* @ A Red Orchid Theatre 7:30pm

T 2/19 discussion of *Fat Boy* and *Ubu Roi*
TTT - Craig
TTT - Meyerhold
option A paper #3 due (choose topic 1 OR 2)
topic 1) critically respond to some aspect of *Fragments* with respect to the dramatic theory of Beckett or the performance theory of Brook
topic 2) critically respond to some aspect of *Fat Boy* with respect to the source material of *Ubu Roi*

Th 2/21 Carlson 17 - 1900-1914
Carlson 18 - 1914-1930

Sun 2/24 FIELD TRIP - *Too Much Light Makes the Baby Go Blind* @ Neofuturists 7:00pm

T 2/26 *The Good Woman of Szechwan* by Bertolt Brecht

Th 2/28 continue discussion of *The Good Woman of Szechwan*
TTT - Brecht
PSR - VI.22 Brecht
option B paper #1 due

– Sun 3/2 FIELD TRIP - *A Fairy Tale Life* @ Apollo Theatre 1:00pm

T 3/4 Carlson 19 - 1930-1950

TTT - Artaud

in-class performance demonstration of Brechtian technique due!!

**option A paper #4 due (on ONE or maybe TWO examples of
"defamiliarization" in the Brechtian sense present in either *Too Much Light*
OR in *A Fairy Tale Life* - not both!)**

From Drama to Practice

– Th 3/6 FIELD TRIP - *Urban Bush Women* @ Dance Center of Columbia College Chicago 8pm

T 3/11 NO CLASS - Spring break

Th 3/13 NO CLASS - Spring break

T 3/18 discussion of *A Fairy Tale Life*

Ann Daly, "Dancing Democracy." *Dance Research Journal*, Vol. 34, No. 2. (Winter, 2002), pp. 8-11. (posted on Moodle)

Ananya Chatterjea, "Jawole Willa Jo Zollar's 'Womb Wars': Embodying Her Critical Response to Abortion Politics." *Dance Research Journal*, Vol. 33, No. 1. (Summer, 2001), pp. 23-33. (posted on Moodle)

Th 3/20 discussion of *Urban Bush Women*

Carlson 20 - 1950-1965

option A paper #5 due (on some aspect of *Urban Bush Women*)

T 3/25 PSR - VI.23 Grotowski

PSR - VI.24 Strasberg

Carlson 21 - 1965-1980

Carlson 22 - since 1980

Th 3/27 review of our "toolbox" thus far

Performance Theories

T 4/1 Richard Schechner "Restoration of Behavior " pp. 35-116 from *Between Theater & Anthropology* (1985) (posted on Moodle)

option A paper #6 due (on any topic raised in "From Drama to Practice")

Th 4/3 Richard Schechner "Drama, Script, Theatre, & Performance." TDR 17, #3 (1973)

PSR - III.10 Turner

PSR - III.11 Bell

T 4/8 NO CLASS - Student Symposium
option B thesis & outline #2 due

Th 4/10 PSR - IV.14 Huizinga
PSR - IV.15 Bateson
PSR - IV.16 Sutton-Smith
PSR - IV.17 Kaprow

T 4/15 PSR - V.18 Austin
PSR - V.19 Butler
PSR - V.20 Parker & Sedgewick

Performance Studies: Anthropology & Intercultural Performance

Th 4/17 PSR - I.1 Schechner
PSR - I.4 Jackson
PSR - VIII.33 Lane
option A paper #7 due (on any topic raised in "Performance Theories")

T 4/22 PSR - I.5 Kirshenblatt-Gimblett
PSR - VIII.34 Conquergood
option B paper #2 due

Th 4/24 TTT - Soyinka
TTT - Boal
PSR - VIII.31 Bhabha
PSR - VIII.32 Gomez-Peña

So, what is performance?

T 4/29 PSR - II.6 Goffman
review of all definitions/theories of "performance"
handout final exam
**option A paper #8 due (on any topic raised in "Performance Studies:
Anthropology & Intercultural Performance")**

T 5/6 Final Exam due @ 4:30pm